

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MUSCAT 00973 110938Z

10
ACTION FAA-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 DOTE-00 /018 W
----- 082479
R 110450Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2371H

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MUSCAT 0973

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, MU
SUBJECT: DEPARTURE OF CAAG MEMBER

REF: STATE 197311

1. SMITH DEPARTED MUSCAT MORNING AUGUST 11 FOR U.S.
2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT SMITH LETTER OF AUGUST 8 TO DGCA:

H.E. THE UNDER SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION

AFTER COMPLIMENTS;

I HUMBLY SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING POSITION STATEMENT FOR YOUR
CONSIDERATION.

MY DECISION IN ACCEPTING THE CAAG PERSONNEL LICENSING
POSITION IN OMAN WAS PRIMARILY BASED ON THREE ITEMS. (1)
SINCE AN FAA INSPECTOR HAD ALREADY BEEN ON THE JOB FOR
SEVERAL MONTHS AND SINCE ANOTHER FAA ADVISOR WAS BEING RECRUITED
TO REPLACE HIM, I NATURALLY EXPECTED THAT THE OMANI LICENSING
PROGRAM WOULD BE PATTERNED AFTER THE FAA CERTIFICATION
SYSTEM. HAVING A WELL ROUNDED BACKGROUND IN THIS AREA, I
COLLECTED TWENTY KILOS OF HANDBOOKS AND RELATED PUBLICATIONS
TO INCLUDE IN MY AIR FREIGHT ALLOWANCE NAD LOOKED FORWARD
TO A CHALLENGE THAT WS LACKING IN MY MIAMI ASSIGNMENT.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MUSCAT 00973 110938Z

(2) MRS. SMITH, WHO HAD BEEN TEACHING CLASSICAL ARABIC CLASSES, FOR DADE COMMUNITY COLLEGE, WAS ANXIOUS TO STUDY LOCAL ARABIAN GULF DIALECTE AND WRITE A TEXT BOOK.

(3) THE COST OF LIVING ALLOWANCE, THE FURNISHED QUARTERS AND THE TRANSPORTATION WERE ATTRACTIVE. WHEN WE LEARNED THAT WE WOULD BE LIVING IN A PAN AM COMPLEX WE WERE QUITE CONFIDENT THAT THE APARTMENT, FURNISHING AND FACILITIES WOULD BE ENTIRELY ADEQUATE. I HAD LIVED IN AND VISITED SERVAL PAA CAMPS AROUND THE WORLD.

HOWEVER, MY WASHINGTON BRIEFING DID NOT PRESENT THE TRUE FACTS ABOUT ITEMS (1) AND (3). ALTHOUGH MR. WHEATLEY HAD DEVELOPED AND IMPLEMENTED AN FAA TYPE LICENSING SYSTEM IN SAUDI ARABIA, I FOUND THE PROGRAM IN OMAN ALMOST ENTIRELY BRITISH. AND THE PROJECT, EXCEPT FOR ISSUING THE LICENSES, HAD BEEN COMPLETED BY THE TIME I ARRIVED. WHEN I FINISH PRESENTING THE 250 GULF AIR LICENSES TO THE AVIATION LICENSING BOARD, BY THE 15TH OF AUGUST, MR. AL WOhibi SHOULD HAVE NO DIFFICULTY IN CARRYING THE PROGRAM ON. SINCE GULF AIR FLIGHT CREW MEMBERS ARE NO LONGER REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN THEIR U.K. LICENSES, THE NEED FOR IMMEDIATE ISSUANCE OF OMANI LICENSES IS OBVIOUS.

MRS. SMITH WOULD STILL LIKE TO JOIN ME BUT THE FURNISHED HOUSING PART OF ITEM (3) IS PROHIBITIVE. I CANNOT ASK MY FAMILY TO SHARE MY PRESENT LIVING QUARTERS AND ENVIRONMENT. SO THE MONETARY ADVANTAGE IS, THEREFOR, CANCELLED, AND I WILL NOT REMAIN SEPARATED FROM MY LOVED ONES FOR LONG.

I HAVE NOTIFIED MR. MOORE OF MY DECISION AND HAVE RECOMMENDED THAT FAA FAMILIES SHOULD NOT BE SENT TO OMAN UNTIL ADQUATE HOUSING AND CACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE. I ALSO BELIEVE THAT THE CAAG LICENSING POSITION SHOULD BE CHANGED TO AN AIRMAN CERTIFICATION SPEGEALIST FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS. GULF AIR FLIGHT CREW MEMBERS WILL NOW BE RECEIVING PERIODIC PROF FIENCY AND TYPE RATING CHECKS FROM COMPANY CHECK AIRMEN WHO HAVE BEEN DESIGNATED TO ACT AS EXAMINERS FOR OMAN. TO MAINTAIN CONTINUITY OF FLIGHT SAFETY THESE EXAMINERS, AND THOSE DESIGNATED FOR ROYAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MUSCAT 00973 110938Z

FLIGHT AND SOAP, MUST BE PERIODICALLY CHECKED FOR PROFICIENCY AND TECHNIQUE BY A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DIRECTORATE OF CIVIL AVIATION OF OMAN. THE REPRESENTATIVE SHOULD HAVE RECENT FLIGHT CHECK EXPERIENCE IN LARGE TURBOJET AIRCRAFT AND ROTORCRAFT. IN LIEU OF A FULL TIME INSPECTOR, THE FAA MAY ARRANGE TO ASSIGN A QUALIFIED AIRMAN CERTIFICATION SPECIALIST TO OMAN ON TEMPORARJIDUTY AS REQUIRED.

HOPING THAT WE CAN DISCUSS THIS PROBLEM SOON, I REMAIN, RESPECTFULLY YOURS, ARGYLE L. SMITH.

3. FOLLOWING IS TEXT DGCA AUGUST 9 REPLY TO SMITH:

URGENT

MR. A.L. SMITH
PERSONNEL LICENSING OFFICER
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION
SEEB INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

AFTER COMPLIMENTS,

YOUR LETTER DATED 8TH AUGUST, 1976 IS ACKNOWLEDGED AND THE CONTENTS NOTED WITH GREAT REGRET.

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED THAT YOU ARE SUSPENDED FROM ACTIVE DUTY WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT. ANY OUTSTANDING WORK OF THE PERSONNEL LICENSING SECTION SHALL BE HANDED OVER TODAY TO MR. AHMED HAMEID AL-WOHEIBI AND MR. AHMED KADRI EL-HARTY, WITH ANY EXPLANATORY NOTES THAT MAY BE NECESSARY.

YOU ARE ASKED TO PREPARE YOURSELF FOR REPATRIATION TO THE U.S.A. AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY. THE U.S. EMBASSY HAS BEEN INFORMED ACCORDINGLY.

/A/ SALIM BIN NASSIR AL-BUSAIDI
UNDER SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION,
AND DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION
WOLLE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NOMINATION, AIR SAFETY, CONSULTANTS, AIRCRAFT PILOTS, PERSONNEL SEPARATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MUSCAT00973
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760308-0996
From: MUSCAT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760864/aaaaceft.tel
Line Count: 145
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION FAA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 197311
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUN 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <18 OCT 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPARTURE OF CAAG MEMBER
TAGS: EAIR, MU, (SMITH, ARGYLE L)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006